



Ø BEAT

COLO. SPRINGS,
COLORADO

JUNE 1974



ARRL NEWS

There has been considerable discussion in the nautical and electronics press in recent months concerning the future of Loran A, mostly on the basis that Loran A is inherently less accurate than such systems as Loran C and Omega. Now, by letter of May 14, OTP Director Whitehead (KØBGD) has informed FCC that Loran A is to be phased out, with termination scheduled for about July 1, 1980, and Dr. Whitehead has recommended to the Commission that the 160-meter band be restored fully to the amateur service, with the amateur service to be granted primary status.

Acceptance of such a recommendation is not necessarily automatic, and it will surely be advantageous for the League to file with FCC a justification of the need of the amateur service for these additional frequencies.

-....-

The Goldwater bill to declare National Amateur Radio Week, SJ197,

(Continued on Page 5)

PRESIDENT'S NEWS

Russ Ruggieri WBØGKF

At the May meeting it was decided by a membership vote to dispense with the normally scheduled June meeting. This was done to accommodate the other amateur activities scheduled in June. These activities include the 1974 Rocky Mountain Division Convention on June 7, 8 and 9 and the Field Day exercises the weekend of June 22 and 23.

Field Day preparations are progressing smoothly; however there are still a number of loose ends. To coordinate the various tasks for FD, a meeting of the Field Day Committee will be held on June 12th at the regular club meeting place, at 7:30 PM. Attendance by all those who are planning to attend FD is encouraged.

Due to the recent resignation of the PPRAA board chairman, Fred Palmblad, WØCYN, an election for

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ZERO BEAT

Published in the interest of the members
of the Pikes Peak Radio Amateur Association
Inc. Colorado Springs, Colorado

R. Charles Smith, WAØZZS
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The PPRAA meets at 7:30 P.M. on the second
Wednesday of each month in the Security
Savings & Loan Building, East Platte at
Union Boulevard.

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MAY MINUTES - Bob Tate, WBØJTZ

The May meeting of PPRAA was held
on May 8, 1974 at the Security
Savings and Loan Building, Union
at Platte.....Meeting was called
to order by the President, Russ
Ruggieri, WBØGKF at 7:40 PM.....
Visitors were asked to introduce
themselves.....The members, in
turn, were asked to introduce them-
selves for the benefit of the visi-
tors.....Treasurer's report was
given by Dean Jaynes, WAØPJH. Ac-
cepted as read. Dean also noted
that only \$6.00 was taken in for
the month; however, expenditures
amounted to \$76.00. Indication
was given that all motions result-
ing in expenditures would be watch-
ed very closely for the balance of
the year.....The President noted
that there is a complete reorgan-

ization of amateur licensing in the
offing. Much of the information
presently available is rather vague.
More on this subject will be forth-
coming. He also mentioned that the
FCC is displeased with the auto-
patch system because of mis-use.
The President also noted that there
was too much commercializing on the
repeater, which of course endangers
the repeater license. The repeater
will be very closely scrutinized
in the future for any such violat-
ions. The President asked for a
vote from the members to cancel
the regular meeting for June. Mo-
tion made and carried. Reason for
cancellation was to allow members
more free time for the ARRL Region-
al Convention scheduled for June 8
and 9, and for Field Day activities

(Continued on Page 5)

XENIA, OHIO TORNADO DISASTER

The Xenia, Ohio tornado disaster on April 3 was well served by amateur radio. Complete lack of conventional communications rapidly was replaced by emergency traffic handling through WR8ACV and WA8MCR repeaters to Dayton Red Cross and Ohio Traffic Net on 3972.5 MHz. Later many other radio links were established as conventional facilities were not repaired for several days. Conclusions were that experienced operators and standard operating procedures really paid off when used. Repeater proved invaluable, but more could have been used, especially mobile repeaters at the scene. Cooperation was excellent making use of emergency frequencies unnecessary. Congratulations to the several hundred amateurs involved.

HRR via WR8 ABC's

LICENSE APPLICATIONS

When you send in for a renewal be sure to send in a copy of your current license, not the original.

Too many things getting lost in the mails and elsewhere so be sure to keep a copy of all application forms and other material submitted. Pay by check.

73 MAGAZINE's "Hotline" via CCRC
CIRCLE

PRESIDENT'S NEWS - Continued

a new board member will be held at the July meeting. Let's have a good turn out at this meeting so that the selection will truly represent the desires of the club members.

The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held on July 10th. See you then!

YL NEWS AND VIEWS

Joan Ehlis, WBØALK

Women in amateur radio and belonging to the Colorado YL's are busy through-out the state making gifts and table favors for the women's luncheon at the convention.


I'd like to take the time to explain exactly what the women's luncheon is all about - it is a cool, calm, non-technical rap session over food and somewhat away from the hurry and swap of the guys!

The Mayor's wife, Mrs. Josephine Takaki, will officially welcome you to our city and then Rosie Lewis, WAØMNL has the latest for women who married ham radio or feel they have homestead rights to the air waves. Then, the president of the YL's will give you more calm, coolness by presenting a program - JUST YOU AND ME AND TODAY. After that, there will be a SHORT YL meeting to which you are all invited and encouraged to attend. Then, finally, we offer you a tour of the Colorado Fuel and Iron Corporation.

All this, plus prizes for everyone, big door prizes for some and free baby sitting for those who need it for just \$2.50.

Bet you can't beat that with a stick, even if you were a rabbit
.....that's all folks!

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HAMS FLIP A PANCAKE!

Late one Sunday in March, K9VWJ was testing his rig on the Aurora (Illinois) repeater when an unidentified station asked for a signal report. Asked to identify, the station replied seriously that he was "The Pancake". Thus began one of the most unusual episodes ever heard on amateur radio. It was suspected, and later confirmed, that "The Pancake" had a radio recently stolen from a club member, and the way to get the radio back was to keep him on the air until he could be found. So WR9ACE was turned into the first CB repeater, as the hams omitted their legitimate calls and adopted 27 MHz "handles" like Red Baron, Aurora Jeep and Little Red Pinto, peppering their language with plenty of "10-4's" and "how 'bout its" and actually convinced the CBer that he was on the "new 220 MHz FM CB band".

Meanwhile, several mobiles began a hastily convened fox hunt on the input frequency, while everyone else attempted to keep "The Pancake" on the air. Hunt coordination was done on other channels. For nearly two hours not one amateur call was heard on the repeater except for the voice ID, which, according to one quick-acting ham, was his wife reminding him of how late it was getting. Remarkable cool heads prevailed and nobody spouted off about how this was illegal or what the heck was going on etc., which obviously would have tipped off "The Pancake" that something was fishy.

What began as a comedy, became a drama, as the mobiles began closing in. "Pancake's" power supply was getting hot and he wanted to sign off before it burned up, but the hunters were still several miles away. Back on the repeater, the hams racked their brains to keep "Pancake" on the air, and every time he tried to go, someone would break in and ask him a question to keep him on a few minutes

longer. Finally, though, he was gone. The CB activity was kept up a few minutes longer in hopes that he would return, until one of the mobiles announced that "The Pancake" had been found. In fact, his last transmission was made with a car load of amateurs standing on his lawn, their DF loops pointing directly at his 27 MHz antenna!

The Elmhurst police were then called and convinced that a stolen radio was in the house ("no, we haven't actually seen it, officer, but we know it's in there.") The District Attorney made out a search warrant and a judge was awakened in the middle of the night to sign it. With the first rays of dawn, the police entered the house, arrested "The Pancake", and recovered the radio.

If you can't quite believe this story, the whole incredible event is recorded on tape. Contact Gary, WA9NSO for details. Much credit must be given to the ham operators for not blowing the deal, and especially the mobiles who tracked down the CBer.

From "Squelch Tale" - Chicago FM Club via WR8 ABC's.

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MAY MINUTES - (Continued)

scheduled for June.....Mike Stansberry, WBØHCK gave a final Field Day progress report and an FM Committee report. Reconfirmation was made on vehicles, equipment and operators. Request was again made for operators, as not all who volunteer will appear. Additional request was made for rope to assist in construction of antennas in the field. Repeater users were reminded that dues are due and payable, and new repeater users were instructed that dues were to be mailed or submitted to Pete Demario, KØUDG.....Chuck Myers, WAØZCS gave a report on the CCARC meeting held on April 20, 1974 at Fort Collins. He also mentioned that the next meeting would be held in the City Hall in Englewood on May 18, 1974. Point of discussion at the June 8 and 9 Convention in Pueblo will be the possible frequency change by Boulder.....Coffee break at 9:15 PM.....Meeting reconvened at 9:30 PM.....Drawing was held for door prizes.....Dick, WØOOK showed a very interesting and informative film on Single Sideband.....Meeting was adjourned at 9:50 PM.

The new pedestrian lights in Las Vegas are marked "Stop," "Go" and "Three to One You Don't Make It"

ARRL NEWS - (Continued)

has passed the Senate and is now in the House Committee on the Judiciary. This entity is entangled with impeachment matters, but if enough amateurs and others write its chairman, the Hon. Peter Rodino (Suite 2137, House of Representatives, Washington, DC 20585) it may be possible to get necessary House action.

-...-

Of all the numerous petitions for amateur rules changes on file, some 43 deal with basic license matters. This has prompted an extensive study into the present structure, and a number of possibilities are being considered for an eventual FCC proposal. In current favor is a plan which might be called the 'dual-ladder' system, one mainly hf and the other vhf, with an 'expert' classification at the top combining privileges of both worlds. One route would be similar to the present - Novice thru General thru Advanced, with various frequency privileges below 29 MHz. The second would be the vhf route, starting with a "communicator" no-code license, then moving up through Technician and a higher class such as "experimenter." Separate licenses would be required for the two areas of operation (hf and vhf), although present licenses would probably be "grandfathered" in some fashion. It is likely that a Notice of Proposed Rule Making will be issued before the end of the year, indicating the Commission's conclusions on the

(Continued on Page 6)



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ARRL NEWS - (Continued)

basic structure, along with a Notice of Inquiry soliciting comments on operator requirements and associated privileges for each proposed class, as well as procedures in transition to a new system.

-...-

A most extensive presentation was made by Prose Walker concerning the forthcoming (1979) World Administrative Radio Conference with suggestions for ARRL/IARU planning. He indicated that the special government (plus Dick Baldwin) committee studying the amateur service was seeking additional frequency space, such as expansion of 40 meters, and new band segments at 10, 18 and 24 MHz; of course he pointed out other services were also likely to ask for increases and the conflicts would have to be resolved at much higher level. He presented some most interesting propagation data, much from computer analysis, being used to support the amateur need for more space.

A major point of news was the announcement that a pilot project will commence in July hoping to provide more widespread availability of amateur (and other) license examinations. In five districts (Detroit, Chicago, Seattle,

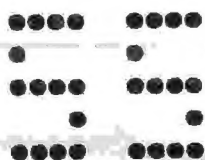
Anchorage, Honolulu) personnel of the Civil Service Commission will conduct amateur examinations at a number of locations within the areas. A new form will be provided for application, which will permit the amateur to indicate his choice of city; a response will set the date and time. Cassette tapes will be used for the code examination, with the sending recorded for later grading by an engineer. More good news is the plan to provide - in the experimental areas only - a certification of passing a portion of the exam in case of failure to meet all requirements, so that only the missed elements would need to be taken the second time.

The study material for examinations is undergoing substantial revision. No longer will the Commission issue extensive lists of example questions; rather, a syllabus to indicate the scope of each exam will be published. This may show up before yearend, and could of course affect our License Manual content drastically.

OSCAR 7

A most recent article in Foothills FOOTPRINT reports that the launch date for OSCAR 7 is now set for July 15, at Vandenberg. Are you ready to try one of its many facilities?

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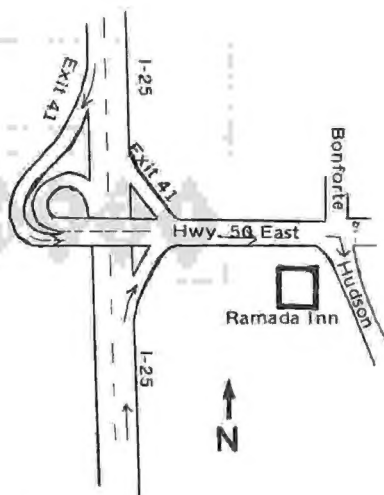
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JUNE 7, 8, 9, 1974

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C.C.A.R.C. Meeting	Navy MARS Meeting	Army MARS Meeting
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A.R.R.L. Forum	Traffic Session	Wouff-Hong Ceremonies
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48 inductors, 3 gas tubes, 6 transformers, the crystal unit, and thousands of other parts into each of 274 repeaters. Even when operating at 5 miles under the ocean, they expect at least a 20 year life out of their 80 million dollar fone line.

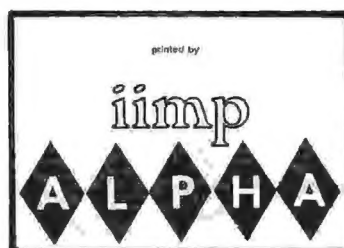
It makes our repeater look pretty good, doesn't it!

ARNS via CCRC CIRCLE



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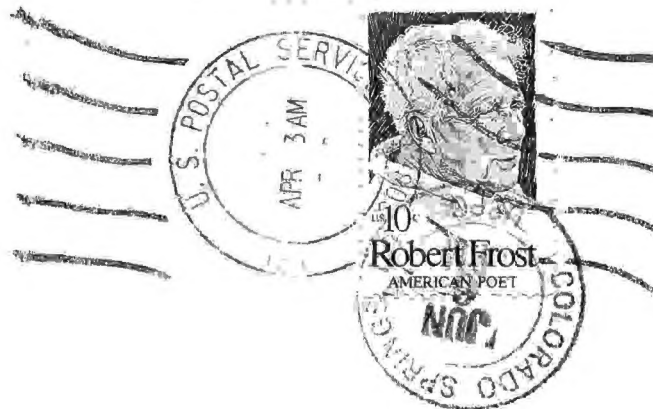


JUNE

1974

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